

REMARKS

Claims 2 – 4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's continued attention and consideration.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate all limitations of dependent claim 2, and is, thus, deemed to be in allowable form. Dependent claim 2 has been canceled.

New independent claim 5 corresponds in all material respects with allowable claim 3, rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, independent claim 5 is deemed to be in allowable form. Dependent claim 3 has been canceled.

New independent claim 6 corresponds in all material respects with allowable claim 4, rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, independent claim 6 is deemed to be in allowable form. Dependent claim 4 has been canceled.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kajiyama (U.S. 6,841,741 B2) and in view of Aoki et al (U.S. 6,774,319 B2).

As discussed herein above, claim 1 has been amended and is deemed to be in allowable form, rendering the present rejection moot.

Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

USSN 10/618,952 filed 07/14/2003 (DP-309769)
Amendment dated: 31-MAR-2006
Response to Office Action of 12/01/2005

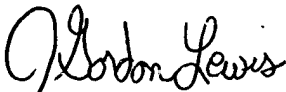
Conclusion

Applicant believes, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, that all grounds of rejection of the claims have been addressed and overcome, and that all claims are in condition for allowance.

If it would further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication and/or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No.: 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,



J. Gordon Lewis
Reg. No. 28735
(248) 813-1234